

Visitors, please read

We warmly welcome all visitors and seekers in our midst today.

**Holy Communion is the greatest gift on earth. It is given by God to baptized and chrismated Orthodox Christians, who have prepared themselves with regular prayer, fasting (from midnight, unless there is a medical condition), and confession, and who have the blessing of their spiritual father or confessor to receive it.**

We welcome anyone visiting for the first time, and we trust that your experience here will be an uplifting and enriching one. The Orthodox Christian Church is actually a community of local Churches, whose roots are the ancient and native Christian communities of the biblical world, with centers in Jerusalem, Syria, Egypt, and Asia Minor, and by extension in Greece, Cyprus, Russia, North America, and throughout the world.

As a continuation of the ancient Church, we engage the whole person, heart, mind, and all senses in divine worship. This experience has been so powerful to seekers in the past that it was often said "We knew not whether we were in heaven or on earth. We knew only that there God dwelt among men" (Russian Primary Chronicle). That experience of heaven on earth and God in our midst forms the heart of all Orthodox worship.

Our worship culminates in the sharing of Holy Communion, which not only unites us with the Divine, but also expresses the deep unity in faith and life among all Orthodox believers. Since Holy Communion expresses that deep unity in belief and practice alike, it is reserved for practicing Orthodox Christians, who have properly prepared themselves with prayer, fasting, and recent confession. This is because the Orthodox choose not to make an external display of unity with other Christian groups when actual unity of faith and practice does not exist.

While working to restore the full communion that did exist among Christians in antiquity, today we offer the blessed bread (*antidoron*) at the conclusion of the Liturgy, as a gift of hospitality and of growing unity that is offered to all present. If you would like to learn more about the Orthodox way of life, or have any questions about worship or Holy Communion, please approach Fr. Michael or one of the other clergy following the Liturgy.

Thank you for joining us, and again, we welcome you all.

*We hope you enjoy your visit with us here at Holy Cross, and we thank you for joining us today.*

*We formally invite you and/or your guests to join us for coffee hour in the community center next door. If you can stay, we would love to have you!*

Sunday, October 27, 2019

The Reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 11:31-33; 12:1-9

Brethren, the God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed for ever, knows that I do not lie. At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas guarded the city of Damascus in order to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped his hands.

I must boast; there is nothing to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven -- whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise --whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows -- and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. Though if I wish to boast, I shall not be a fool, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

The Gospel According Luke 8:41-56 At that time, there came to Jesus a man named Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue; and falling at Jesus' feet he besought him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying. As he went, the people pressed round him. And a woman who had had a flow of blood for twelve years and had spent all her living upon physicians and could not be healed by anyone, came up behind him, and touched the fringe of his garment; and immediately her flow of blood ceased. And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" When all denied it, Peter and those who were with him said, "Master, the multitudes surround you and press upon you!" But Jesus said, "Some one touched me; for I perceive that power has gone forth from me." And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace." While he was still speaking, a man from the ruler's house came and said, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more." But Jesus on hearing this answered him, "Do not fear; only believe, and she shall be well." And when he came to the house, he permitted no one to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child. And all were weeping and bewailing her; but he said, "Do not weep; for she is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. But taking her by the hand he called, saying, "Child, arise." And her spirit returned, and she got up at once; and he directed that something should be given her to eat. And her parents were amazed; but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.

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Fr. Michael Kallaur  
Fr. Daniel Korba  
Dn. Frank Dickos

Altar candles are sponsored in loving memory of †*Stefanos Vlahos* by the Yamalis family.  
Coffee hour is sponsored today in loving memory of †*Jim Dickos* by the Dickos and Countouris Families.

Trisagion: †*Stefanos Vlahos* 14 years  
†*Jim Dickos* 3 years  
†deceased *GAPA Members* and *heroes of OXI Day Oct 28, 1940*

### THIS WEEK:

**Monday – October 28** 6:30pm Paraclesis/NO Bible Study  
National Clergy Retreat in San Antonio, TX through Thursday

**Tuesday – October 29** Evening– Open gym for GOYA basketball  
6:30pm Farmer’s Market Season Recap & 2020 Meeting in Library

**Wednesday – October 30** 4:30pm Greek School  
6:22 -8:15pm Hayride at Simmons Farm in McMurray

**Thursday – October 31** 7pm Chant Class

**Friday – November 1**

**Saturday – November 2** 5pm Vespers



Please refrain from parking in the handicapped spots near the office when there are services or parish events. We have parishioners who do require assistance or cannot walk a long distance and need access to the elevator. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

**Ministry Opportunity:** We have a Holy Cross Parishioner coming to completion of incarceration. The parishioner has the possibility to finish their sentence and transition to a home setting with a stable family. If you are willing to open your home to this parishioner, please see Fr. Michael for the details.

The **Thanksgiving Food Drive** for **FOCUS** will take place on the following Sundays in November: 10th, 17th and 24th. There will be boxes placed in the narthex for collection. Some suggestions for food donations are as follows: cereal, pastas, sauce, peanut butter, jelly, coffee, tea, canned fruits, vegetables, and soups, macaroni and cheese, tuna. No glass please. As always your kindness is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

### THANK YOU to our upcoming Coffee Hour sponsors:



November 3 ~ Presvytera Catherine Pachis, Ann Marie & John Aronson,  
Niki Aronson, Diane Babb and Beth Rangos

November 10 ~ Family of James Gianaris

November 17 ~ Folk Dance Festival Brunch

Please join us for the Philoptochos Evening Membership Social on Tuesday, November 5, at 7pm on the carpeted area of the Community Center. Connie Carahalis, membership chair, is promising a relaxing evening of wine, food and fellowship. A brief general Philoptochos meeting will commence at 6:30pm in the Philoptochos Room prior to the evening social.

Please join us for the Philoptochos Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 3, 6:30pm, at the beautiful setting of the Le Mont. Mary Zotis, chairperson, 412 835-2381, will take your reservations by Friday, November 29. Entrée selections are Rack of Lamb \$42, Filet Mignon \$44, Salmon \$35, Chicken \$32. Please make checks payable to Holy Cross Philoptochos and mail to: Mary Zotis 419 Longleaf Drive Venetia, PA 15367

### Philoptochos' Annual Veterans' Day Salute During Coffee Hour

On Sunday, November 10, 2019, Holy Cross Philoptochos will recognize, honor and gratefully thank all our veterans as well as all our men and women still on active duty in the armed services. We would like to once again display military memorabilia and/or mementos such as a photo or photos, letters, stories, tributes, uniform, and military awards in the Social Hall during coffee hour.

We will collect these cherished items in the narthex on November 10th until Communion. Upon leaving coffee hour, you may take the items with you or we will return them to your home that afternoon.

If you have any questions, please contact Cynthia Henry (412.561.5682) or Dina Petrakis (412.341.8506) Co-chairs.